

## HURRICANE KATRINA EVACUEE ASSISTANCE

### Evacuees should first contact the nearest RED CROSS Office:

#### Local Chapter Contact Information:

**Central Iowa Chapter- answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week: 515-243-4054**

Assistance available from the American Red Cross includes:

- Monetary assistance for IMMEDIATE DISASTER-CAUSED NEEDS including food, clothing, medications, and shelter.
- Evacuees are entered into the Red Cross internal communication network for family reunification and location information.
- All applicants will be interviewed to verify personal identification showing their pre-disaster address; their immediate emergency needs; their local resources; and their long-term recovery plans.
- Referrals to local resources for mental and physical health and state, county or community resources.

**Evacuees should also contact the Federal Emergency Management Agency via the registration hotline 800-621-3362 (800-462-7585 for hearing and speech impaired) or online at <http://www.fema.gov/register.shtm>**

#### FEMA can provide the following resources to those that qualify:

##### Housing Assistance

- Lodging expenses reimbursement
- Rental assistance
- Home repair cash grant
- Home replacement cash grant
- Permanent housing construction in rare circumstances

##### Other Needs Assistance

- Medical, dental, funeral costs
- Transportation costs
- Other disaster-related needs

FEMA can also provide referral for the following resources:

- Low-interest loans
- Veterans benefits
- Tax refunds.
- Excise tax relief
- Unemployment benefits
- Crisis counseling
- Free legal counseling

#### THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD ALSO BE CONTACTED FOR ASSISTANCE:

##### STATE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES OFFICE:

[http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/dhs2005/dhs\\_homepage/children\\_family/getting\\_help/map\\_offices.html](http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/dhs2005/dhs_homepage/children_family/getting_help/map_offices.html)

Department of Human Services Offices will determine eligibility for and coordinate:

- Food assistance
- Medicaid or medical assistance
- Cash assistance
- Housing outplacements

##### COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/common/pdf/publications/SFYcountycontracts.pdf>

##### IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:

The local Iowa Workforce Development office will:

- Expedite your disaster unemployment insurance claim
- Assist in locating emergency job opportunities
- Provide career assessment resources
- Assist with general job placement

**To utilize these resources, contact your local IWD office by calling 800-562-4692 or access [www.iowaworkforce.org/centers/files/offices.htm](http://www.iowaworkforce.org/centers/files/offices.htm).**